# THE BULLETIN

*of the*

## Park Avenue Synagogue

50 EAST 87th STREET NEW YORK

VOL. I MARCH 1, 1928 No. 2

### AN APPRECIATION

The reception accorded the first issue of The Bulletin was most encouraging and heartening to the Editor and the Publicity Committee. Verbal and written comments bespoke the cheering welcome and approval of many of its readers. This is a mighty incentive to bigger and more constructive effort. Having made its debut in a friendly environment before a receptive audience, it bids fair to grow in importance and usefulness as a social medium and central factor in the life and ambitions of our parent body and allied organizations. The Editorial Board invites helpful suggestions and such news items as will give The Bulletin the color and tone of intimacy, and make the readers look forward to its monthly appearance. Personal and public acknowledgement is herewith made for the many kind expressions of encouragement. "A glad hand in time is a most wonderful chime."

### THE CONGREGATION

The quarterly meeting of the Congregation will be held Tuesday evening, March 13th, at 8:00 o'clock, in the vestry rooms. The members who are interested in the work and in the welfare of the Synagogue owe it to themselves to be present. None can afford to miss this great business meeting—perhaps the greatest in the history of the organization.

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The regular monthly meeting of the board will be held Sunday, March 11, at 10 a. m. The signs are multiplying that definite action is to be taken with regard to the acute problems that have been crying for solution. Vision, Oratory, Diplomacy will no doubt combine to make the meeting a hummer.

### DIVINE SERVICES

Attendances at the Friday evening services have been growing perceptibly stronger, more prompt and regular. By comparison with other Temples, we have ample reason to be satisfied. But why should a comparison with somebody else have to stimulate satisfaction when a little effort and thoughtfulness on the part of the members and affiliates could fill our beautiful auditorium to capacity. Just a small bit of religious loyalty would bring you on the Sabbath eve to your spiritual home. The sacred songs and their artistic rendition, the Sabbath Spirit and the topical lecture, the refined surroundings and good fellowship—these and a deep inward satisfaction invite you to the House of God.

The subjects for the month:

March 2—*"The Jew and Civilization."*

March 9—*"Evil Prominence."*

March 16—*"Waiting for Daylight."*

March 23—*"Religion and the Superman."*

March 30—*"Back to the Home."*

All are welcome.

## A FEW WORDS TO THE WISE

Dear Fellow Member:

About a month ago the Membership Committee of the Park Avenue Synagogue sent out a written appeal, requesting that you exert every possible effort to secure new members or at least submit the names and addresses of possible prospects to the Membership Committee.

It is with sincere regret that we have to report that the answer to this appeal has not been encouraging. The campaign that we have launched for "FIFTY MEMBERS WITHIN TWO MONTHS" has been crippled for lack of co-operation.

The men and women who are ready to give their time and their efforts to promote the welfare of the Temple in this most important step are receiving such poor support that they are compelled to once again appeal to your sense of duty and attempt to awaken you to the seriousness of the situation.

If we are to make our institution self supporting—to release it from a state of penury and want—to place it on a plane of financial respectability commensurate with the plan and scope intended for it, we must receive far more co-operation in every possible manner from the membership at large.

It is not fair—it is not just—to place the burden of work and support upon the shoulders of a few willing and ardent workers. This House of God belongs to the ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP. You also must share our sorrows — our worries and our anxieties as well as receive the comforts and solace that are offered within the walls of our holy and magnificent house of prayer.

You have it in your power to relieve the tension and worry of the situation—a concerted effort on the part of the entire membership must be made—just and honorable debts contracted by the Synagogue must be met and paid—the burdens that are crushing our spirits and our work must be lifted.

Arise, dear friend, from your state of lethargy and inaction—put your shoulder to the wheel — join the ranks of the real earnest workers—get out and root and boost for your Temple—above all, BRING IN NEW MEMBERS. Join in the good work that will bring you many dividends of happiness—joy—comfort—peace of mind—consolation and satisfaction of heart.

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*Let not your temple be one "That Dies from the Living and Lives Only from the Dead."*

—B. P.

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## TEMPLE FUNCTIONS

The Bar Mizvoh of Martin Stiefel will be celebrated Saturday, March 3rd. We offer his parents our warm congratulations.

The joint Bar Mizvoh service of William F. Wolf and Melville Jacobson will take place Saturday, March 10th. We extend to their parents our sincere felicitations.

The Bar Mizvoh service of Edward Nelson will be held Saturday, March 31st. We present to his parents our best wishes.

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## WEDDINGS

The wedding of Mildred Gilman to Daniel Scher will take place Sunday, March 4th.

The wedding of Tessie Schoenfeld and Eugene J. Taush will take place Sunday, March 25th.

The wedding of Lena Wohlgemuth and Carl Hoffman will take place Sunday, March 25th.

We wish these bridal couples the best of luck and most complete happiness.

## A BIG STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

The Men's Club, with its basic principle in all its endeavors, *"Our Temple First,"* has taken the first important initiative and established a laudable innovation. At its meeting February 6th, a special fund has been created to be used and applied exclusively toward the reduction of the mortgage on the Temple building.

In view of the fact that all its special functions and monthly activities for the past two seasons, such as open meetings, addressed by eminent speakers, and social card parties, with refreshments free for all, and where the members of all the affiliated organizations, their wives and friends, found at all times a hearty welcome, and although not holding any revenue producing activities for the past two years, and with an extremely modest working fund derived solely from its membership dues that the club has still set aside the sum of $250 as a nucleus toward a Mortgage Reduction Fund, is surely a commendable and noble deed and example.

The unanimous and joyful spontaneity of all members present at the creation of this fund proved the outstanding feature of this act, and surely bids well for its rapid and sustained growth.

My heartiest congratulations to the officers and fellow members of the Men's Club.

May our fund grow by leaps and bounds.

—P. H.

## THE PURIM MASQUERADE

On Saturday evening, March 3rd, the children of our religious school will celebrate their Purim Festival in the form of a Masked Ball and Entertainment. It is easy to imagine the spirit and eagerness of the youngsters and their parents looking forward to this occasion. Costumes of every character and effect will be exhibited, and the grand march will make a Hallowe'en party and mardi gras parade look like third poor cousins from Oshkosh. Prizes will be awarded for originality, wit and dash. A snappy orchestra will furnish the dance music. Refreshments for the children will be served by the Sisterhood.

## THE GRAND CONCERT

Extensive preparations are being made for the year's climax of social and artistic enterprise. It will be a *tour de force* with its piece de resistance to boot. The park Avenue Synagogue is known to do big things in a big way. But this will eclipse all previous performances. A kind and generous member has secured the services of world-renowned artists for a Grand Concert to be given in the Temple auditorium, Sunday evening, April 1, at 8:15 o'clock. The proceeds will be used as a part payment of a bank loan on our building. It is an honorable obligation that must be met promptly. Every member, seatholder, affiliate, visitor and friend is urged to give a helping hand to put this concert over as a mighty demonstration of solidarity and loyalty. It is a matter of honor as well as urgency. Get in line for service. Procure tickets for your own use, dispose of some to your relatives and friends, advertise in the souvenir musicale. The cause is a holy one and you are really helping yourself.

## INFORMATION

All enquiries about matters pertaining to the Synagogue, such as Bar Mizvoh, weddings, membership, memorial window and tablet, tickets for grand concert, etc., should be addressed or phoned to the secretary, A. Tobias, 50 East 87th Street (phone, Rhinelander 9158). Direct and first hand information will thus be obtained and avoid the possibility of a misunderstanding or doubt. It is a saving of time and energy, and insures prompt and satisfactory service.

## THE SENIOR LEAGUE

Mr. Maurice Blumenthal is an able leader and executive. Under his direction the league was organized last May, and by his guidance it has grown in spirit and in numbers. This group of young men and women has held many dances and club socials with gratifying success. But the cultural aspect of the association has also received the proper attention. Recently, Albert Baum, senior student at the Institute of Religion, delivered a stimulating address on *"Youth and Religion."* The speaker had a lively time trying to answer important absorbing questions. A wonderful evening it was from every viewpoint. The next meeting will be held Tuesday evening, March 6th, at 8:30 o'clock. Mr. Sidney Sukoenig, son of the Cantor and formerly prize student and now instructor at the Damrosch Conservatory of Music, will give a piano recital, with an address bearing on the various numbers. We invite all who read these lines to be our guests, spend the evening with us, and enjoy the musicale. Such opportunity does not come often, and we look forward to it with great pleasure.

## FOR YOUR MEMORANDUM

The Sisterhood meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.

The March bridge whist party will be held Monday, March 19th, at 2 p. m., in the social hall, with Mrs. William Wolf hostess. The Charity Sewing Circle meets every Tuesday at 10 a. m.

The Men's Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings. The March open meeting will be held on Monday evening, March 26th, at 8:30 o'clock. Morning pictures of the new Palestine in the making, with Mr. Robert Seelav as lecturer will be the feature of the evening. Everybody is welcome.

## REMINISCENCES

The writer is neither an enthusiast nor a cynic. He takes life as it comes, without excitement either upward or downward. He has seen too much of the world to expect the unusual and not enough of human nature to discount its cheerful surprises. One must never allow the capacity for enjoyment to be frayed or used up in hypercritical excursions. Indifferent persons who take things for granted prove their own lack of distinction and miss the enjoyment and fun of life.

The foregone lives serve as an introduction to the reminiscences of the past week's social events which took place in the two allied organizations of the Temple. The annual card party and ball of the Sisterhood held on Washington's Birthday eve at the Hotel Pennsylvania was a pacemaker in quality and in enjoyment. Sociable, affable and hospitable was the air breathed by an assemblage that would have done credit to New York's 400. The ball room presented a picture of color and charm as refreshing and youthful as it was brilliant and refined. By unanimous opinion it was pronounced one of the finest affairs ever held.

Similarly extraordinary and happily surprising was the open meeting of the Men's Club, held Sunday evening, February 26th, in the social hall of the Temple. The guest speaker, Dr. Davis, exceeded all expectations with his genuine wit and humor. The loudest farce and side-splitting comedy of the White Way for which people pay premiums to see are dull and mediocre by the side of Dr. Davis's *"Echoes of Life."* For one hour and a half the audience rocked with laughter. The habitual stay-aways and the lofty critics certainly missed a barrel of fun and an evening's joy of living.